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FIRST EDITIONS OF TO-DAY
AND HOW TO TELL THEM
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FIRST EDITIONS OF TO-DAY AND HOW TO TELL THEM

BY
H. S. BOUTELL

PHILADELPHIA
J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY
1929

PUBLISHERS' NOTE

As Messrs. Arrowsmith observe on page 12, the correct term is not First Edition but First Impression or Issue. Unfortunately this error of terminology is almost universal; and it was felt that to use any but the usual phrase in the title of the book would be to invite misapprehension. One hopes that a better state of things will one day prevail.

In the case of firms having both English and American houses there are cross-references, and the replies received from each side of the Atlantic have been given, except in one case where the replies were identical. It would hardly, however, be safe to assume that these invariably represent divergences of practice.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE¹

Generally speaking, the collector of *first editions* is really a collector of *first impressions*, a first impression being a book from the first lot struck off the presses, and a *first edition* comprising all books which remain the same in content and in format as the *first impression*. A *second impression* is a second printing. A *second edition* postulates some alteration of text or format. But these terms are, unfortunately, not strictly adhered to.

It is hoped that this book will serve to guide the collector amidst these intricacies.

The publishing houses of Great Britain and the United States are listed in alphabetical order, and in every case the information is quoted directly from letters, material, or information received from the publishers themselves.

Every attempt has been made to make this book as complete as possible, but some of the compiler's letters were not answered. And if any of the publishing houses whose books are being collected have been overlooked by the compiler, he would like to express his regret both to them and to his readers.

H. S. B.

ENGLISH HOUSES

FIRST EDITIONS OF TO-DAY AND HOW TO TELL THEM

GEORGE ALLEN & UNWIN, LTD.

It is our practice in the first edition to print the words "First Published in — the year of issue" and in subsequent impressions or editions to add the additional dates.

D. APPLETON & CO.

The practice of our New York house is to print the figure 1 within brackets at the end of the last printed page on any book issued by them. When a second printing takes place this figure is, of course, changed to the figure 2, etc., etc.

In addition our New York house invariably dates the title page and the American copyright law requires the year of first publication to be on the back of the title page, in order to preserve the copyright.

∴ *See also American Section.*

EDWARD ARNOLD & CO.

We do not designate our first editions of books in any special way. If the book reaches a second edition or second impression we designate it as such on the title page as a rule.

J. W. ARROWSMITH (LONDON), LTD.

Our custom is to put on the back of the title page "First published in 1928", or whatever the year may be. Reprints are marked "First published in 1928—Second Impression 1928—" and so on.

May we take this opportunity of pointing out that the words "First Edition" are invariably misused. What is meant is "First Impression" as a First Edition may include 20 or 30 impressions and presumably it is only the first which is of value.

G. BELL & SONS, LTD.

The title page of the first edition carries the year of publication at the foot, and when it is reprinted the month and year is indicated on the reverse of the title page, *e.g.*:—

First Published (say) February 1928.

Reprinted (say) July 1928.

ERNEST BENN, LTD.

We have two forms of designating first editions, (1) a bibliography printed on the back of the title page stating first published in ——— and then the year. We use this form mostly. (2) is to have no bibliography on the first edition but to put the year of publication on the front of the title page with our imprint.

A. & C. BLACK, LTD.

Subsequent editions and impressions are so noted.

BLACKIE & SON, LTD.

It is not possible to give a general rule for the detecting of our first editions.

In the first editions of our more recent educational works and general publications (exclusive of Reward or Story Books) the date appears on the title-page, and if it is a new edition, it is so stated. The dates of subsequent reprints are noted on the back of the title-page.

BASIL BLACKWELL.

Our first editions are published without any reference on the title page whatever; all subsequent editions bear the fact on the back of the title page.

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS, LTD.

Although we have no hard and fast rule, our general practice is to omit the notification of the first edition on the first issue of a book, the date of publication appearing below the imprint. Subsequent editions are notified accordingly.

BRENTANO'S, LTD.

Up to the end of 1927 all books published by this Company had no edition printed on them unless they reached a second edition. This information would be printed on the back of the title. From January 1st, 1928 the words "First Printed 1928" were substituted and if the book reached a second edition the words "Second Impression April 1928 (or . . .)"

∴ *See also American Section.*

BURNS, OATES & WASHBOURNE, LTD.

We print on the back of the title page of each of our new books:—

First published 19..

All new editions or new impressions of a work bear this same note with the added information about subsequent editions.

THORNTON BUTTERWORTH, LTD.

It is our habit to place on the back of the title page of all our books the date of first publication, thus: "First Published . . . 1928". If the book should be reprinted we add below indented "Second Impression" and give the date, further reprints are added immediately under. Should another *edition* of the work be issued we add "Second Edition" with the date not indented ranging with the first line.

First Published	1928
Second Impression	July 1928
Third „	Sept. 1928
Second Edition	Jan. 1929
Fifth Impression	Aug. 1929

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

It is our practice to put the date of the publication of any book on the title-page itself. If the book is reprinted, the date of the reprint appears on the title page and a bibliographical description on the back of the title, *e.g.* First Edition 1922.

Reprinted 1923.
Second Edition 1924.

JONATHAN CAPE, LTD.

Our practice is to print on the back of the title page "First published 1928" or whatever the year may be. When the book is reprinted without revision or alteration, we add to this "second impression", again giving the year. Each printing is thus recorded in like manner in the same place. It follows then that a book published by us which has on the back of the title page "First published 1928" and no other information with regard to further printings, is, *ipso facto*, a first edition.

CASSELL & COMPANY, LTD.

The date of publication of each book issued by this firm appears on the back of the title page; the publication dates of subsequent editions are added as they occur.

W. & R. CHAMBERS, LTD.

It is our intention to adopt the plan in future of marking the first impression of our general books "original edition". We do not intend to do this in the case of school books.

CHAPMAN & HALL, LTD.

We do not specify either on the title page or on the back of the title that a first edition is a first edition. When the book is reprinted we generally put a bibliographical note on the back of the title page as follows:—

First Impression March 1928

Second Impression April 1928

and so forth.

CHATTO & WINDUS.

We use no particular distinguishing sign to mark our first editions with.

R. COBDEN-SANDERSON.

I do not follow any rule in regard to the designation of my first editions. I can only give you examples such as the following:—

First published 1926

Copyright 1926

First published 1925

Second impression May 1925

Third impression October 1925

Fourth impression (cheap edition) September 1927

First published October 1927

Second impression November 1927

First published 1920

Second edition 1920

New and revised edition 1926

All the above appear on the back of the title page, but sometimes I have the year of publication printed on the title page only.

W. COLLINS, SONS & CO., LTD.

We do not adopt any special method of designating first editions or first impressions. All our books bear on the reverse of the title page the date of publication and the word "copyright".

In case of subsequent publication of a cheaper edition, the date of the original edition and that of the cheap edition are inserted on the back of the title-page.

CONSTABLE & CO., LTD.

We have no standardised method of designating our first editions, but, generally speaking, we put "First published [date]" on the back of the title-page, and if this appears without any other detail, the book on which it appears is a first edition. Reprints are noted also on the back of the title-page, under the original legend. Please observe that this is merely our usual practice and not a standardised or official method.

G. W. DANIEL COMPANY.

Our method of designating first editions of our books is to put "First published, etc". on the back of each title page, and to add to that the dates of all further editions as they are issued.

PETER DAVIES, LTD.

I have no hard and fast method of designating a first edition.

More often than not a bibliographical note is printed on the verso of the title-page of my publications. It reads: "First printed in (*e.g.*) May, 1928". In case a further edition is issued, there will be an addition to the note, *e.g.* "Reprinted, June 1928". In the absence of any such addition, the book will be a first edition.

If there is no bibliographical note at all, in which case the date, that is the year, will almost certainly appear on the title-page, then also the book may be taken to be a first edition.

J. M. DENT & SONS, LTD.

Our usual practice is to print a date on the title-page of a first edition; if a book is reprinted we put a new date on the title page and print on the reverse—"First published so-and-so. Reprinted so-and-so". Thus you will be able to identify first editions by the absence of any such note on the reverse of the title-page.

NOEL DOUGLAS.

We designate our first editions by printing the date of publication on the reverse of the title page, as, "published 1928". Subsequent editions or reprints are added below, as,

"published 1928
reprinted 1929
second edition 1930"

GERALD DUCKWORTH & CO., LTD.

Our usual custom is to put on the reverse of the title page "First published, 1928". In some cases instead of this we put the date at the foot of the title page. In either case a second edition has a definite statement that it is a New Impression or a New Edition on the reverse of the title page.

FABER & GWYER, LTD.

Our practice—and I cannot say that we have adhered to it absolutely rigidly up to the present, has been to print on the back of the title page "First published by Faber & Gwyer, Ltd. in so and so" and with subsequent editions, or impressions, "Second Impression . . ." etc. We do not as a rule print the date of publication on the title page itself.

T. N. FOULIS, LTD.

My usual plan with regard to title pages is to print the date of publication on the back thereof, *e.g.*

"First published January the fifteenth 1928
Reprinted February 1928.
Reprinted March 1928."

WELLS GARDNER, DARTON & CO.,
LTD.

We have followed no strict principle in designating our first editions or first impressions. The nature of our publications, which include fiction,

children's books, Religious books and some poetry, as well as miscellaneous works, has been so varied, and the Trade conditions in regard to format, price, re-prints, and other details have changed so frequently during the past quarter of a century, our methods have depended very much on circumstances of the particular time, and, of course, to a certain extent also on the personal discretion of the author and the member of the firm concerned with a particular book. We are, therefore, unable to give you any definite information in general. If there is any particular book which we publish, about which you wish to make enquiry, we can probably give you the accurate facts whether they are printed in the book or not.

GAY & HANGCOCK, LTD.

First Editions of our publications have the date on the title page; second and reprints are notified on the back of the title page.

VICTOR GOLLANCZ, LTD.

Our first editions are distinguished by the fact that they contain no information on them as to what edition they are. All editions other than first editions bear, at the back of the title-page, the words "First Published — second impression (date)" and so on.

HARPER & BROTHERS.

Our first editions are designated by printing at the back of the title page the following words:
FIRST EDITION.

∴ *See also American Section.*

GEO. G. HARRAP & CO., LTD.

Our first editions are distinguishable by the date of publication appearing on the reverse of the title-page. We print a notice in that place, running, for example:

First published 1928

By—

followed by the name of the firm and the address. Should the book reprint the notice is added to as follows:—

Reprinted March 1928.

and the month of publication is added to the original notice (the month is not put in at first because when a book goes to press the date of publication cannot conveniently be determined to a nicety). The notice in the case of a reprint, therefore, would be, for example:

First published June 1916

By—

Reprinted March 1928.

Succeeding reprints are entered thus :

*Reprinted: July 1925 ; January 1927.
February 1928.*

When a book has previously been printed in America or elsewhere abroad we omit "First" from the notice, reading :—

Published 1928.

By—

But a translation first issued by ourselves would be marked "*First published*".

W. HEFFER & SONS, LTD.

It is our custom to put the date on the title page as part of our imprint. Only in the case of later impressions or editions do we put bibliographical data on the verso of the title page. May we say that although this is our invariable practice now, we have not been strictly consistent in the past.

W. HEINEMANN, LTD.

During the early years of the history of this firm there was, I believe, no attempt made specially to designate first editions. The date of publication of a book was usually placed underneath the imprint on the title page. In some cases when further editions or further impressions were issued, the words "second edition", "third edition", etc. appeared either on the title page or on the fly overleaf, and the absence of such a notice was the only indication of the fact that the book was a first edition. In recent years, however, we have instituted the practice of printing on the back of the title page, or on a fly, a bibliographical note in all the books we publish. That is to say, on the first edition we print "First published such and such a date" and as each new impression or new edition is called for we add the note "second impression such and such a date" and so on. We take great pains to get these bibliographical notes accurate and to discriminate carefully between new impressions and new editions. In the event

of a book being reprinted without any alterations in the text as it originally appeared, we call the re-issue a new impression. If the text is changed in any way we call it a New Edition.

We do not follow the American practice of printing the words "First Edition" anywhere in our books. This I believe is quite a recent idea inspired by the interest taken by the modern American in first editions of modern books.

HODDER & STOUGHTON, LTD.

We are unable to help you with regard to our First Editions, as our methods vary with every book.

THE HOGARTH PRESS.

In first editions our custom is to have the year of publication on the title page and no other indication. In case of a second impression or edition we print "Second Impression (or edition)" on the title page with the year of publication and on the back the dates of first and second editions.

MARTIN HOPKINSON & CO., LTD.

Our practice is to put the date of publication on the title page. When a reprint takes place we place on the back of the title page the usual bibliographical information "First Printed" with date—and date of reprint.

If material alterations are made in the text or format we should call the reprint a new edition.

HURST & BLACKETT.

∴ *See next entry.*

HUTCHINSON & CO., LTD.

We do not mark First Editions in any way.

∴ *This may be taken to apply also to those firms which have amalgamated with Messrs. Hutchinson.*

HERBERT JENKINS, LTD.

It is now our custom to put the date of our publications on the back of the title page, and if a reprint is called for we show the date of the reprint also on the back of the title page. If, however, we produce a cheap edition of the work we omit the date therefrom.

ALFRED A. KNOPF INC.

Our practice of designating our first editions is to place on the verso of the title page the legend "first published" followed by the month and year. The further impressions are designated by the number of the impression, and further editions by the number of the edition. In both cases the dates are shown.

∴ See also *American Section*.

JOHN LANE THE BODLEY HEAD,
LTD.

With regard to first editions, the practice here has varied in the course of time. Originally first editions had simply the date on the title page; further printings had the words "second" or "Third Edition" as the case might be, and also the date, though there may have been cases in which the practice was varied slightly. Nowadays we print on the back of the title page the words "First Published in" followed by either the date of the year or the month and the year. In event of reprints the words are added "Second Impression" with the month and the year. In no case have we ever printed the words "First edition" on a book.

T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD.

We follow the custom laid down by the Publishers' Association; namely we print on the *back of the title*, the words:—

First Published	in 1926
Second Impression	— 1926
Third Edition	— 1928

An impression is an exact reprint of a former edition. An edition is where some alterations have been made.

J. B. LIPPINCOTT CO.

Our books are usually designated as follows:

Copyright notice followed by the date and the name of this Company on the back of the title, the date also sometimes appears on the front. The words "New edition" or "New impression" as the case may be, is also printed on the front of the title page.

With regard to limited editions, we usually state the words "Limited edition printed from type and type distributed". This information appears as a rule on the half title; copyright notice, date, and our name also appearing on the back of the title.

∴ See also *American Section*.

JOHN LONG, LTD.

New books published by us are printed with year date of Copyright on back of Title Page in the first edition and subsequent editions are marked 2nd Edition, etc. on title page. This applies to novels published at 7s. 6d., the cheaper editions being issued later.

LONGMANS GREEN & CO., LTD.

We always date the title page of our books, and unless the book is marked " — Impression " or " — Edition " it is a first edition.

∴ *See also American Section.*

MACMILLAN & CO., LTD.

Our first editions carry the date of publication on the title page. If the book is reprinted a statement is put on the back of the title page, saying: " First edition (say) 1900 Reprinted 1902 ". Any subsequent reprints are indicated in the same way. We do not call a book " second edition " unless (1) the type has been reset, or (2) very substantial alterations have been made. In that case, instead of " Reprinted ", " second Edition " would be printed on the back of the title page and occasionally on the title page itself, though there is no special rule about this. The date appearing on the title page itself is the date of printing in every case.

To give a concrete example, a book that was first published in 1900 and then reprinted without much alteration in 1902, and of which a second edition appeared in 1908, would be designated as follows:—
On the title page the date 1908 would appear, and on the back of the title page the words:—

First Edition 1900.
Reprinted 1902
Second Edition 1908.

∴ See also *American Section*.

ELKIN MATHEWS & MARROT,
LTD.

In the case of a first impression we make no special mention; subsequent printings are noted on verso of title-page. In the case of Limited Editions we insert an explanatory note. All our books without exception we date on the title-page. Such has in former years been the usual practice: it is now invariable.

METHUEN & CO., LTD.

For some years past all first editions of books we have published have had on the back of the title page "First Published in ——" As and when the book is reprinted so a further note is added.

This does not apply to Limited Editions, which bear on the back of the title page a note to the effect that "This Edition is Limited to —— copies of which this is No ——."

MILLS & BOON, LTD.

We place on the back of the title page the month and the year that we publish our books; as for instance one published in January of this year would be as follows:—

Published January 1928.

JOHN MURRAY.

The practice we have followed for some years is to omit the date from the title page and to insert at the back of the title page the words "First Edition" together with the year of issue.

EVELEIGH NASH AND GRAYSON,
LTD.

On the reverse of the title page:—

First published in —

Second printing —

THOMAS NELSON & SONS, LTD.

We have used the following three phrases on the reverse of the title page in a number of our General and Fiction publications:—

First Printed —

First Published —

First Impression —

When a second impression or a reprint is issued, we usually put the following in the same position:—

First Impression —

Second Impression —

First Published —

Reprinted —

GEORGE NEWNES, LTD.

So far as this firm is concerned we have no fixed rule. It so happens that the greater part of our Book publishing work is concerned with the re-issue of books that have already appeared in library editions.

In cases where we do publish original work ourselves, we do not mark our first editions in any way. On our second and subsequent editions or impressions we generally state on the page facing the title page the number of editions that have been published with the date of their publication, thus: "First Impression May, 1928, Second Impression July 1928," and so on.

JAMES NISBET & CO., LTD.

It is our practice to insert the date of our First and subsequent Editions of general books on the reverse of the title page.

NONESUCH PRESS.

We have to say that our practice is to date our editions, whether they be first or subsequent editions, upon the title page. In the case of printings after the first, we invariably record upon the back of the title-page the particular impression to which the copy belongs.

GEORGE OVER (RUGBY), LTD.

Our practice is to print date of publication only, and in case of later editions to state which.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

We never, I think, print *first edition* on any first edition. All our title pages are dated. For the information of the public we distinguish "second edition" *i.e.* an issue embodying substantial alterations (whether reset or not) from "second impression" *i.e.* an issue substantially (though not always identically) the same as the first. I know that this is not quite sound from a bibliographical point of view; but I think publishers in our position are bound to put the convenience of the public first. It is often important for a student to be sure he has the latest edition of a book; but it would be unfair to cause him to buy a mere reprint by calling it "nth edition" simply.

CECIL PALMER.

The plan we have always adopted is to print on the back of the title page "First Edition" and then the year of publication. In the event of further editions, we add to this information the following example:—

First Edition June 1927.
Second Edition September 1927
Third Edition January 1928

POETRY BOOKSHOP.

The First Editions of the Poetry Bookshop are generally designated by the words *on the back of title-page*:—Published: month: year:

For second and subsequent editions the words Reprinted or 2nd impression, etc., are *added*.

We would mention that this has only been a general rule heretofore, but it is certainly one we should be prepared to adopt in the case of future publications.

PORPOISE PRESS.

The first impressions of our ordinary issues bear on the back of the title, to which all bibliographical matter is relegated:—"First published in (date of year) by The Porpoise Press, 133a George Street, Edinburgh". On the second and subsequent impressions, there is stated "First impression (month and year); Second impression (month and year), etc.

Where special editions have also been issued, this fact is stated on the ordinary edition, and on the special edition itself there appears a statement as to the size of the edition, etc.:—*e.g.*, "This edition, on hand-made paper, is limited to fifty signed and numbered copies. This copy is Number"

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, LTD.

Our English procedure for indicating first editions is as follows:

On the reverse of the title page, we print the line

First published

followed by the month and year.

When the book is reprinted, we retain this line, adding underneath it:—

Reprinted

followed by the month and year.

Further impressions are indicated in the same way. If, however, there is any definite alteration in matter or style, we indicate this by the words

Second edition

followed by the month and year.

The same procedure would apply for subsequent editions.

∴ *See also American Section*

RICHARDS PRESS, LTD.

It may be taken that any book published by us is the first edition unless there appears a note on the back of the title page indicating more than one printing. It is possible that in a few cases the fact that the book is not a first edition may be indicated by the words "cheap edition" or "new edition" on the title page itself.

GEORGE ROUTLEDGE & SONS, LTD.,
KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRUBNER
& CO., LTD.

If there is no statement at all as to a second or later edition or impression, the assumption, of course, is that the book is a first edition. In the case of reprints, or new editions, we state this on the reverse of the title page.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS.

In response to your inquiry as to the method followed by my firm distinguishing first editions, I do not think that there is any absolute hard and fast rule laid down which would apply in every case. The rule generally followed is to note on the reverse of the title page under the copyright notice the dates when the book has been reprinted. The words "First Edition" or "First Printing" do not usually appear on first editions, but if the copyright date and the date on the title page are in agreement, and there is no further note, the assumption is that the copy is a first edition. Taking half a dozen books at random I note the following details:—

Edward Bok. The Americanization of Edward Bok.

NEW YORK
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
1927

on the reverse—Copyright 1920, 1922 by Charles Scribner's Sons. First Edition September 1920, Second Edition November 1920, Third Edition December 1920, and so on down to 24th Edition August 1923, 25th Edition (Popular Edition) August 1923, and so on down to 34th Edition (Popular Edition) March 1924. In the meantime a different edition known as the Library Edition was published in February 1924 which goes down to the 40th Edition March 1927.

Will James. "Smoky"

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
NEW YORK—LONDON
1927

Copyright 1926 by Charles Scribner's Sons. Published September 1926. Reprinted September, October, twice in November, five times in December, 1926, once in February 1927; August 1927. Popular Edition published August 1927.

Pupin. "From Immigrant to Inventor"

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
NEW YORK—LONDON
1924

Copyright 1922, 1923 by Charles Scribner's Sons. Published September 1923, Reprinted November 1923, January, March, July, October 1924. In this case the copyright notice of 1922 indicates prior publication of part of the book in the Magazine, but here the actual publication date is mentioned.

The assumption is that unless otherwise stated on the reverse of the title page the book may be considered as a first edition. Of course it does not take into account such questions as issues. A mistake might be discovered while the presses were running and an alteration made in later copies. There would naturally be nothing on the book to indicate such a change.

∴ See also *American Section*.

MARTIN SECKER, LTD.

Bibliographical entry on the reverse of the title page.

SELWYN & BLOUNT, LTD.

We always show our first editions by the words "First Printed " and the date. On all further editions the words "Reprinted " and the date, are added. These words are printed on the back of the half title page.

SIDGWICK & JACKSON, LTD.

We do not designate our first editions at all, except by the negative method of there being no second or later edition or impression indicated on the back of the title page. Occasionally we state "Second Impression" or so on, on the front of the title page.

ELLIOT STOCK.

The first editions of our publications are marked with the date thereof upon the title page. All later editions carry the record, *i.e.*, the date of the first edition, and of the subsequent editions or reprints as the case may be.

WARD, LOCK & CO., LTD.

We have no fixed method of designating our first editions.

FREDERICK WARNE & CO., LTD.

We did at one time mark first editions of our publications with a private mark, but we are afraid the habit has been discontinued over a number of years now, and we have even lost trace of the private marks.

WISHART & CO.

The title page carries the date of the edition. On the back of the title page there are the words "First published in" The date of the second and subsequent editions and impressions is printed below this. First editions are therefore not specifically marked as such.

AMERICAN HOUSES

D. APPLETON & CO.

Our first editions are designated by a small numeral one in parentheses (1) at the foot of the last page. Later as we reprint the book this numeral is changed according to the number of the reprinting, that is (2) (3) etc.

∴ See also *English Section*.

BOBBS—MERRILL CO.

We are not entirely consistent in our first edition attitude. Whenever we do mark a first edition the distinguishing mark is a bow and arrow at the bottom of the page on which appears the copyright line.

However, not all of our first editions are marked.

ALBERT & CHARLES BONI INC.

We run a note on the copyright page of all our books indicating all subsequent printings after the first.

BONI & LIVERIGHT.

As a general rule we have no marking on the copyright page of our publications to show our first edition although on subsequent editions we print Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth edition, etc. We have had one or two books with first edition marked on the copyright page but this is not our general practice.

BRENTANO'S.

Up to the end of 1927 all books published by this company had no edition printed on them unless they reached a second edition. This information would be printed on the back of the title. From January 1st 1928 the words "First Printed 1928" were substituted and if the book reached a second edition the words "second impression April 1928 (or . . .)"

∴ *See also English Section*

CENTURY CO.

We have no special mark showing first editions of our publications, except in the case of a few special books. We are planning, however, in the future to put each printing as made on the back of the title pages of all of our publications.

CHELSEA HOUSE.

So far as the cloth-bound book publication goes so few of the books that we have published have run into more than one edition, that we have not been faced with the necessity of marking first editions in any way.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS.

You will notice that the publication date, and record of each new impression and new edition, is entered on the copyright page. Unless notice happens to be made in an occasional new preface, no other record is made in the book.

EDWARD J. CLODE INC.

There is no way in which it is possible to distinguish any of our first editions from later ones.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS.

No distinction exists in regard to first and other editions except that there is printed on the title page the date of first printing for the first editions. On succeeding editions the date is removed from the title page and the second or third printing is noted on the copyright page.

COSMOPOLITAN BOOK CO.

Up to the present time we have published only large editions of popular authors and there has been no cause to designate the first edition. We are changing our policy slightly now and it is possible that we may find it necessary to mark the editions. In this case we will probably print the words "First Edition" under the copyright notice and remove it on any later printings.

PASCAL COVIGI.

Sometimes we print "first edition" on the reverse of the title page, and sometimes not, but invariably we print, "second printing" on the second issue.

THOMAS Y. CROWELL CO.

Our present practice is not to indicate in any way the first edition. Subsequent printings are so indicated.

In the absence of the words, Second Printing, Third Printing, etc., it can be safely assumed that without such an inscription the book is a copy of the first edition.

JOHN DAY & CO.

This company has adopted the method of designating first editions on the copyright page

with a line reading: First published, month, year. Subsequent printings are designated by a line below this reading: second printing, date, third printing, date, etc.

LINCOLN MACVEAGH, THE DIAL
PRESS.

We wish to state that our system is to carry on the title page the year in which the edition is published and on the back of this page, merely a note as to when it was reprinted, such as is done by most publishers.

DODD, MEAD & CO.

We have never made a practice of labelling our books as first editions or second editions etc., in fact, to our mind an edition is not the same thing as a printing. The first seems to us to denote some change in the contents of a book while the second is simply the number of times the book has been put to press. While we do not label our books First Edition or First Printing, we do, as soon as a second printing is ordered, add a notice on the copyright page giving the date of the publication of the book and the date of the second printing. If other printings follow, a third, etc., up to sometimes as many as fifteen, we add the date of each subsequent printing as it is ordered. This has been our practice up to the present time.

GEORGE H. DORAN & CO.

The sign of a first edition of a Doran book is a small round colophon in which the initials "G H D" appear and which is always placed directly beneath the copyright line.

Occasionally, the colophon is omitted, in which case the words "*First Printing*" always appear.

DORRANCE & CO. INC.

As a usual thing, First editions are not indicated as such other than by a line giving copyright and year, but when other Editions are got out, full information is given. Take for example, the volume "RECORD FLIGHTS" which we have published this spring. On the Second Edition we had "Copyright 1928. First printing March—Second printing March." In a special Limited Edition of this book there was printed "In a limited Edition of five hundred copies, of which this is No..." In the future, in the case of unusual books and rare books, we expect to print "First Edition" on the First Edition.

DOUBLEDAY, DORAN AND CO.

We always plan to indicate right under the copyright line on the first printing the fact that the book is the first edition.

DOUBLEDAY, PAGE & CO.

Our method of indicating first editions is the printing of the words "first edition" beneath the copyright notice which backs up the title page.

DUFFIELD & CO.

We designate our first editions by printing the copyright date on the reverse of title page. Occasionally we insert the phrase "First edition printed such and such a date", in cases where the first edition is assumed to be important.

DUNSTER HOUSE BOOKSHOP.

Our own publications have always had the date in the First edition on the title page. This is the same method as that used by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin Company.

E. P. DUTTON & CO.

Unfortunately we have no definite scheme for identifying First Editions. Recently a copyright notice behind a title-page, on which nothing occurs but that, is an indication it is a first, because when we begin the second printing we mark it on the back.

THE ESSEX INSTITUTE.

It is very unusual for our publications to run to more than one edition and we have not designated the first in any case except by the date. We have designated second editions as such on the title page.

GREENBERG, PUBLISHER, INC.

We do not designate first editions in any special way. But all later editions bear a notice to that effect.

HARCOURT, BRACE & CO.

We have not been following any fast rule for indicating first editions. On all books for which we think there may be some demand, we indicate the first edition by placing a small figure 1 on the copyright page under our copyright notice, or by putting on a line "Published" and then the date. Subsequent editions have either a number 2 on them or a line "Second Printing", and then the date.

HARPER & BROTHERS.

It is our custom to print on the copyright page of all first editions the two words "First Edition". These are removed from the plate on all subsequent printings.

In addition to these you will find on our copyright pages two key letters beneath the copyright.

These give the month and year when the edition was printed. This key may be read by referring to the enclosed card.

KEY TO EDITIONS ON COPYRIGHT PAGE

A—January	M—1912
	N—1913
B—February	O—1914
	P—1915
C—March	Q—1916
	R—1917
D—April	S—1918
	T—1919
E—May	U—1920
	V—1921
F—June	W—1922
	X—1923
G—July	Y—1924
	Z—1925
H—August	A—1926
	B—1927
I—September	C—1928
	D—1929
K—October	E—1930
L—November	
M—December	

∴ See also *English Section*.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

We have no distinguishing mark which signifies that a book is a first edition. As a general thing, we put second, third, fourth impression, etc. on the reverse of the title-page whenever we make new printings.

RAE D. HENKLE CO. INC.

As to our method of marking first editions, we omit any edition reference on the first printing and on the reverse of the title page note the first, second and other printings in subsequent editions.

HENRY HOLT & CO.

We have never had a definite method of indicating a first edition in our books. Ordinarily, under the copyright line, we insert the dates of the printings so that any book which bears a single date is probably a first edition. In some cases, however, where we know there is to be only one printing, no date is inserted. Also, when sheets are imported from Europe, no special notation is made.

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN CO.

It is our general custom to place the date on the title page of the first edition of all of our books and to drop this date on all subsequent editions. Perhaps we have not invariably followed this custom, but it is our intention to do so.

The copyright page after the first printing sometimes bears the legend "second impression" "third impression", "fourth impression" etc. This, however, is not the general practice.

There are very likely instances where the date has not been removed from the title, after the printing of the first edition, and therefore it would not be an infallible rule to look for a date on the title page, but you may be sure that if the date is omitted it is not a first edition.

MARSHALL JONES CO.

It is our custom to print on the copyright page the date of printing *i.e.* PRINTED APRIL 1927, but we do not always do this. When we reprint we usually put on the date just below the other.

ALFRED A. KNOPF INC.

It is our practice to indicate on the copyright page with a line thus: "Second Printing, Third Printing", etc. This note does not appear on the first edition.

∴ See also *English Section*.

J. B. LIPPINCOTT CO.

For the last two or three years only we have been putting First Edition on the copyright page of our important books only, such as "Hawkers and Walkers" "The Practical Series", etc. Before that, and at present on general works including fiction,

we have not indicated the first edition, but we indicate all *subsequent* printings by placing on the bastard title the words "Second Impression" and so on.

Twenty years or so ago it used to be the habit, we think, of most publishers to date the first edition of Fall books the following year so that for instance a book might bear the date 1901 when it was copyrighted and first published in the Fall of 1900.

∴ See also *English Section*.

LITTLE, BROWN & CO.

With few exceptions we make no attempt to designate first editions.

Where we have brought out limited editions as well as trade editions of the same book we have sometimes indicated the first trade edition.

LONGMANS, GREEN & CO.

With regard to the identification of our first editions, we would say that at the present time we are printing "First Edition" on the reverse of the title page of our general literary works.

To distinguish between first editions and others of those books printed previous to the adoption of the present method, one may compare the date used on the title page with that of the copyright date to appear. If the date appearing at the foot of the title page and that of the copyright are the same, the volume is a first edition.

∴ See also *English Section*.

THE MACAULAY CO.

We wish to state that we have not been marking our first editions in any particular way. Usually, when second and further editions are issued of the same title, they are so marked.

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY.

On the reverse of the title page of our books, just below the copyright notice always appears a notice to the following effect: "Set up and electrotyped. Published " or "Set up and printed. Published" Usually any reprintings or new editions are listed below. If there are no such reprintings or new editions listed and if the date above our imprint on the title page and the publishing date as given above coincide, the book is a first edition. In cases where the reprintings are listed on the back of the title page, a comparison of this imprint date and the publishing date is usually sufficient to identify the book.

∴ See also *English Section*.

MACRAE SMITH & CO.

On the copyright page, which is the back of the title page on our books the first edition contains only the copyright notice. Following editions give a record of the number of printings and the dates.

ROBERT M. MCBRIDE & CO.

Our designation of the first edition is usually the line reading either *FIRST PUBLISHED APRIL 1927* or *PUBLISHED APRIL 1927*. This line is retained in all subsequent editions but the number of the printing is added below it in the second line such as *SECOND PRINTING, JUNE, 1927*, changed on the next printing to *THIRD PRINTING*, etc.

Our practice, of course, in the past has not been uniformly thus, but we are among the few houses which has consistently printed the number of the edition on the back of the title page.

DAVID MCKAY CO.

There isn't any way you could identify the first editions of our books.

MACY-MASIUS.

On the page backing the title page, we place invariably this legend on the first editions of our books:

Published (with the date of publication)

We don't refer to further printings as editions, since they obviously aren't in the true sense of the word. But we list the date of each further printing within the first edition. We call a printing a second edition only if there is something different in it from the first.

MINTON BALCH & CO.

All first editions of our books contain the date on the title page and the copyright date following. Subsequent printings are indicated by the words (under the copyright notice) "second printing" with the month and year in which this printing is made.

WILLIAM MORROW AND CO.
INC.

The first printing of our books either carry on the page following the title page the line

First Printing

or in some cases merely the copyright notice without anything further.

Subsequent printings are always designated as "Second Printing" or "Third Printing" as the case may be.

A new edition of the book is also clearly marked.

You will note that we distinguish between editions and printing. An edition with us is where some material change has been made in the copy or the make up of the book.

L. G. PAGE & CO.

We use practically the same method as Doubleday, Page & Co. to designate our first editions. We print "first impression" with the month and the year on the reverse of the title page. We do not, however, add the date on the title page.

PAYSON & CLARKE, LTD.

We do not put the actual words "first edition" on the reverse of the title page for the first edition but when we go into the second printing we say "first printing such and such a date," "second printing such and such a date", therefore, all copies of a book which do not carry such designation may be taken as being "firsts".

PENN PUBLISHING CO.

As we indicate first editions in none of our books we are unable to give you any information regarding the subject about which you inquire.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS.

Our only way of designating first editions is by negative implication. In other words, our first editions bear no special designation. If, however, a title is reprinted or reissued that fact is set forth on the copyright page.

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS.

Our system as to new publications does not usually include printing any entry on the back of the title page or otherwise indicating first edition.

When a book is printed a second time, as a rule we print under the copyright notice the words "First printed March 1927. Second printing April 1927, etc." Where there is no note of this kind it may be assumed that the work is the first printing.

It is always our intention not to use the word "second edition" unless there is some distinct addition or change from the first edition. When that is the case, usually on the title page is the line "second edition revised, or second edition corrected, or second edition revised, corrected and enlarged" or some such expression. A similar entry is often printed under the copyright notice.

As to the date on the title page. This is supposed to be the date when the particular copy was printed. Reprints without change would generally have that title page, and when such reprint is made it would be the copyright entry which would tell by comparison that it was not first edition.

For staple items that had been reprinted from year to year, as a rule the date is omitted from the title-page.

∴ *See also English Section.*

RANDOM HOUSE.

Since Random House only publishes limited editions, all of the necessary information that you require is contained in the colophon, *i.e.*, as far as we are concerned, there is only one edition, the first.

WILLIAM EDWIN RUDGE.

Up to the present time we have never included anything in these limited editions of ours that would indicate that they were first editions though ninety per cent. of the books we issue are first editions.

In the future we will carry this information on the copyright page.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS.

We have no fixed plan for designating our first editions of general publications. If a book runs to more than one printing we usually print somewhere in the "front matter" Second Printing, Third Printing, Fourth Printing, whatever it might be. From this it might be assumed that a copy containing no such printing notice might be considered the first edition.

∴ See also *English Section*.

SIMON AND SCHUSTER.

Our first editions are marked by the fact that the copyright page bears *no* printing or edition notice, whereas in subsequent editions the dates, and sometimes even the quantity of the printings appear, as

First Printing, April 1927
Second Printing, May 1927, etc.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

Our method of indicating our first editions is the negative one of not mentioning reprinting or revision. Editions or printings subsequent to the first edition or printing carry on the copyright page both

“ First published, 19—”

and

“ Second Printing, 19—”

or

“ Second (Revised) Edition ”

FREDERICK A. STOKES CO.

To date we have omitted putting any special mark or distinction upon first printings of any of our books, but in general these can very readily be distinguished from succeeding printings by the fact that on the Copyright Page (reverse of Title) no printing notice appears. After first printings we generally put the date of publication and the words “ Second Printing ” and date of such printing.

GEORGE SULLY & CO.

We do not mark the first editions of our books in any particular manner.

VIKING PRESS.

Our first editions can be distinguished by the fact that there is no indication to the contrary on the copyright page. That is, we indicate the date and number of each reprinting.

IVES WASHBURN INC.

We print the date of publication on the title page and on the reverse run a copyright date line but do not print "first edition" or "first printing" beneath it. When we make a second printing, we change the date on the title page, provided it is done in a subsequent year; otherwise, it remains the same.

In making a second printing, whether new material is added to the book or not, we always print beneath the copyright date line on the reverse of the title page, in italics the words "first printing" followed by the month and year, and below "second printing" with month and year, and so on for subsequent printings. In other words, unless we give this information on the

reverse of the title page the buyer may know, that he has bought the first editions of our books.

FREDERICK WARNE & CO., LTD.

∴ See *English Section*.

JOHN C. WINSTON CO.

We publish books in a number of different classes and have private marks on some of our editions, notably on our text-books, which give us the date of each edition for our own information.

We have not, however, made a practice of marking the first editions of our trade publications and should we decide to do so we will probably adopt a symbol which would not mean anything to the public, as I can think of at least one good reason why it might not be desirable to have first editions indicated.

I must confess that this is undesirable from a book collector's standpoint but other considerations unfortunately outweigh this to such an extent that we are not as yet prepared to establish a permanent system of marking our first editions.

YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

We do not print the words "First Edition" in any of our books, but on the reverse of the

title-page, under the copyright notice, we indicate the subsequent printings as follows :

First Published, 1915.
Second Printing, 1916.
Third Printing, 1919.
Second and Enlarged Edition, 1922.
Third Edition with Many New
Chapters, 1924.

It is therefore safe to assume that any of our publications which have no designation below the copyright notice are first editions.

NOTES

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